MESSRS. H. V. RANGASWAMI, H. BORANNA, K. MAHADEVAPPA AND A. NARANAIENGAR OF HASSAN.

Q.—27. Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) The amount of money spent in purchasing stores for the various technical departments in the State—these ten years.

(2) In what foreign and local markets and by whom the stores are purchased.

(3) Have any commissions been allowed or earned and if so how much in respect of these purchases and how have they been disposed of.

CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—

A.—(1) and (2) A statement furnishing the information so far received as to the value of stores purchased in the several technical departments from 1913-14 to 1922-23 and indicating the places from which they were obtained is placed on the Table.

(3) In all cases where the supplier allows commission, it goes towards reduction of the cost, and only the net price after deducting discount or commission is disbursed. In the Krishnarajasagara Dam Construction Division, however, a rebate of Rs. 48,179 on account of the value of explosives purchased has been received from 1914 to 1923 and this amount has been credited to the several works in which the explosives were used.

MR. SURAPPA, BELUR.—.

Q.—28. Will the Government be pleased to state what are the steps taken and measures adopted for relieving agricultural indebtedness in Malnad with reference to the reply to Question XIV of the Birthday Session of the Representative Assembly ?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, REVENUE DEPARTMENT.—

A.—The member's attention is invited to the reply given by Government to Mr. H. G. Basavappa's interpellation on this subject at the last meeting of the Legislative Council.

Supplementary Questions.

Mr. Hosakoppa Krishna Rao.

Will the Government be pleased to state whether, in accordance with the suggestions of the Co-operative

Committee presided over by the Hon'ble Mr. Lallubhai Samaldas Mehta, the question of the early establishment of a Land Mortgage Bank will receive the early consideration of Government.

Dewan.

The matter is under consideration and my speech at the ensuing meeting of the Mysore Economic Conference may be awaited, wherein an announcement on the subject will be made.

Mr. G. Paramasiviah.

In view of the experience in regard to the late Agricultural Banks, will it not be inadvisable to start a Land Mortgage Bank afresh ?

Second Member of Council.

No opinion of Government can be given now on a matter which is still under consideration.

MR. NANJUNDAPPA, ALUR.—

Q.—29. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) The total extent of land under the control of the Excise Department.

(*b*) The amount of *kandayam* it would fetch if given out for cultivation.

(*c*) The total expenditure now incurred on account of Excise (Toddy) Department.

(*d*) If the Government can rely upon the stability of such income.

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, REVENUE DEPARTMENT.—

A.—(*a*) 346,702 acres.

(*b*) Most of the lands reserved being unassessed, it is not possible to say what *kandayam* they will fetch until they are actually assessed.

(*c*) The total expenditure in the Excise Department is Rs. 4,15,000 according to the budget for 1923-24.

MR. A. ANANTHIAH, SHIMOGA TALUK.—

Q.—30. Will the Government be pleased to state the amount till now spent since 1915 for Panchama Education ?